

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111  
U.S. Appln. No.: 10/718,572

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-12 are pending in the application. By this Amendment, new claims 10-12 are added.

Claims 4, 5, 7 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Prior Art (Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings and the respective areas of the specification) in view of Fåhraeus *et al.* (U.S. Patent 6,563,951; hereinafter Fåhraeus). Claims 1-3, 6 and 9 are allowed. Applicant submits the following in traversal of the claim rejections.

An embodiment of the Applicants' invention relates to a segment-based pixel processing apparatus and method for effective use of memory. In the embodiment, pixel data in a frame are divided into a plurality of vertical segments. In each vertical segment, the pixel data in each horizontal line segment are sequentially pre-processed or post-processed.

Fåhraeus discloses a method for matching two images, each consisting of a plurality of pixels and having partially overlapping contents, and the degree of correspondence between the contents of the images is determined for different displacement positions representing different overlappings of the images.

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 4 and 7 are believed to be patentable because Fåhraeus does not teach, suggest, or provide motivation for a pixel processing method wherein the sequentially pre-processing or post-processing the pixel data in the segment comprises storing the pre-processed or the post-processed pixel data and checking whether or not pre-processing or post-processing is performed on pixel data at a last row of the segment, in combination with other elements of the claims.

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Claims 5 and 8, which depend from claims 4 and 7, are believed to be patentable for at least the reasons submitted for their respective base claims.

New claims 10 and 11, which indirectly or directly depend from claim 4, are believed to be patentable for at least the reasons submitted for claim 4.

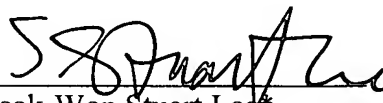
New claim 12 is believed to be patentable because Fåhraeus does not teach, suggest, or provide motivation for shifting row pixel data in their respective memories in the sequentially pre-processing or post-processing the pixel data, as recited in the claim.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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\*Granted limited recognition under  
37 C.F.R. § 11.9(b), as shown in a copy of  
the same filed on April 4, 2005, at the  
U.S.P.T.O.

WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: April 4, 2005

**BEFORE THE OFFICE OF ENROLLMENT AND DISCIPLINE  
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**Expires: May 29, 2005**

  
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Harry I. Moatz  
Director of Enrollment and Discipline